

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 025011
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY OASD/ISA:JSIENNA
APPROVED BY EUR:JEGOODBY
SEC BROWN
EUR/RPM:WTSHINN, JR.
PM/ISP:COL. MATHISON
S/S-O:SVALERGA

-----096784 310526Z /13

O 310424Z JAN 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 025011

NODIS
EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: NATO, MPOL

SUBJECT: TANK GUN

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE LETTER FROM SECRETARY OF
DEFENSE BROWN TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE LEBER ON THE
TANK GUN DECISION. YOU SHOULD DELIVER THIS TO
MINISTER LEBER JAN 31 AT 0901. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT
SECRETARY BROWN MAY WISH TO TELEPHONE LEBER JUST BEFORE
YOU DELIVER THE LETTER. IF SO WE WILL TRY TO ADVISE
YOU IMMEDIATELY. COMPLETE ANNOUNCEMENT SCENARIO IS
BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTEL. (NOTE THAT ABOVE TIME IS
WASHINGTON TIME.)

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PAGE 02 STATE 025011

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR GEORG,

TODAY WE WILL BE ANNOUNCING OUR TANK GUN DECISION, WHICH
AS YOU KNOW IS FAVORABLE TO THE CANDIDATE SYSTEM PUT
FORWARD BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. AS YOU

ALSO KNOW, THIS HAS BEEN A DECISION WHICH WE HAVE TAKEN
WITH THE UTMOST CARE, AND FOR THAT REASON WE SAW SOME
HARD BARGAINING OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS. I BELIEVE
THAT BOTH OF US OWE THANKS TO THOSE WHO REPRESENTED US
IN THOSE NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAVE AN AGREEMENT WHICH SERVES

OUR INTERESTS AND THE INTERESTS OF THE ALLIANCE QUITE
WELL. NOW WE ON OUR SIDE HAVE TO CONVINCE OUR CONGRESS;
I THINK THE CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT WE CAN.
I LOOK ON THIS DECISION AS A LANDMARK IN FURTHERANCE OF
THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT TO A TWO-WAY STREET FOR
DEFENSE EQUIPMENT. WE BOTH CAN RIGHTLY CITE THIS AS
PROOF THAT WE CAN WORK TOGETHER. OF COURSE, MUCH
REMAINS TO BE DONE IF WE ARE TO KEEP UP THE FREE
FLOW OF DEFENSE TRADE, AND YOU AND I WILL HAVE TO
CONTINUE TO WORK ON THAT PERSONALLY AND CLOSELY.
I LOOK FORWARD TO THAT.

END TEXT.

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DRAFTED BY: S/S- O SGODSSMITH

APPROVED BY: S/S- OSGOLDSMITH

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O 311500Z JAN 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 025011

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FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

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DTD 31 JAN 1978 QTE

S E C R E T STATE 025011

NODIS
EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADOR

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TAGS: NATO, MPOL

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END TEXT. VANCE UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, CAT-B, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS, MILITARY SALES, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES), DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE025011
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JSIENNA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N780002-0212
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978012/aaaaabpb.tel
Line Count: 168
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b93f09e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3710060
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TANK GUN FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE LETTER FROM SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BROWN TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE LEBER ON THE
TAGS: MPOL, GE, NATO, (BROWN, HAROLD), (LEBER, GEORG)
To: BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b93f09e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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